



Tennessee Wildlife Federation

The Tennessee Wildlife Federation is the largest Tennessee statewide non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of wildlife and natural resources. We bring together and represent the varied interests of people who enjoy the great outdoors. Our mission is “to champion the conservation, sound management and enjoyment of Tennessee's wildlife and natural resources for current and future generations through stewardship, advocacy and education.” We accomplish this mission through our programs, some of which are described below.

Stewardship

Hunters for the Hungry

Tennessee Hunters for the Hungry is a cooperative program of the Tennessee Wildlife Federation (TWF) and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA). Through this program, deer hunters and meat processors make properly prepared venison available to agencies and organizations (such as food banks) assisting those in need of a helping hand. The 2004-2005 season yielded approximately 32,300 pounds of donated venison which fed over 125,000 meals to hungry citizens in Tennessee.

Advocacy

Governmental Affairs

The Tennessee Wildlife Federation advocates and educates at the state and federal government levels for the conservation and sustainable use of Tennessee's wildlife and the land, water and air they rely upon. Conserving diversity of plants and animals, restoring wetlands, cleaning lakes and streams and conservation education, as well as watching out for the interests of sportsmen, are just a few of the many issues TWF addresses on a proactive basis.

Education

NatureLink

NatureLink was created to introduce inner-city families to the outdoors. This weekend program takes entire families into the outdoors and is designed to solidify family ties through a mutual sharing of meaningful outdoor experiences. The central theme of NatureLink is “family togetherness in the great outdoors” and activities include fishing, canoeing, hiking, bird watching, constructing birdhouses, identifying animal tracks and studying stream ecology.

Project Wild and Project Wild Aquatic

Projects Wild and Wild Aquatic is a curriculum provided to educators through materials and practical, interactive workshops to provide hands-on activities in the classroom that enhance students learning in all wildlife and conservation subjects and skill areas. The Projects instruct educators on how to teach students the confidence, skills and motivation to take responsible action on behalf of the environment while meeting state and federal educational requirements.

Scholastic Clay Target Program

The Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) provides school-age participants in grades 12 and under with the opportunity to showcase their competitive shooting skills in Trap, Skeet and Sporting Clays and earn state and national recognition. The program is designed to instill in participants safe firearms handling, commitment, responsibility, leadership and teamwork and well as providing an opportunity to introduce youth into the outdoor lifestyle.

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